



**Course Syllabus
SEMESTER
School of Business, Hospitality Management, and Public Safety**

Introduction Information

Course Name: Introduction to Victimology

Course & Section Number: CJS 245-XXX

Meeting Day(s) and Time(s):

Credits: 3 Contact Hours: 3 Lecture: 3 Lab: 0

Instructor's Name:

*Please call me NAME, it is my preferred name. If you have a preferred name, please let me know so that I can use it.

Pronouns: My pronouns are INSERT. Please let me know yours so that I can use them.

Office Hours & Location:

On Campus:

Online:

Campus Phone:

Campus E-mail:

***Please use your Owens email to contact me.**

Additional Contact Information:

Health & Safety Information: Please note that while unlikely, there is a possibility courses might need to change the delivery method due to public health concerns. If this happens, the college will communicate any changes via email and/or other communication methods.

If you are not able to participate because you are ill, family emergency, etc., please let me know as soon as possible in order to work out make-up work. Class assignments/tests will be processed through Blackboard Ultra.

Currently, masks are allowed but not required on campus; however, this requirement may change depending on circumstances. If changes are made, you will be informed via email and/or other communication methods.

Classroom Admittance: OCC classes (e.g., traditional, land-based, laboratory, hybrid, asynchronous online, synchronous online, etc.) shall only be attended by the officially registered OCC students, instructor of record, guest lecturer, or substitute. Visitors are not permitted in the classroom and should not be invited to attend or participate in the class. See [FERPA](#) for specifics.

Classroom Attendance for F2F, SWD, or WEB Classes:

Web-Based course: Student will be able to complete the requirements at their own pace, staying within the set due-date parameters for assignments and tests. Any extensions for assignments must be pre-approved by the instructor. Class weeks run Monday through Sunday, with any assignments due before TIME on DATE of the assigned week. Testing portals will open at Noon on the Wednesday of the assigned week. Students will have two opportunities to complete tests once they enter the portal. Tests will be open book, but the student should be familiar with the material in order to complete the test in time. The instructor reserves the right to include extra credit questions outside the scope of the text. Discussion topics will be announced on the week assigned.

For any changes, students must talk with their instructor and advisors.

General Information:

THIS COURSE DEALS WITH A HIGHLY SENSITIVE TOPIC. There may be students in the class who have been the victim of crime. When discussing topics within the discussion board, all students must be aware of this and not be judgmental of others' situations. My role as an instructor is not to control the discussion, but to observe the comments and step in as I deem necessary. IF ANY STUDENT FEELS OFFENDED OR THRETNED BY ANY COMMENTS, PLEASE CONTACT ME DIRECTLY VIA EMAIL.

Student Code of Conduct: All students are expected to follow Owens Community College's [Student Code of Conduct](#), which includes academic honesty, encompassing plagiarism. See the [Board Policy](#) for more information.

Anti-Discrimination and Harassment & Title IX/Sexual Misconduct: All students, faculty, and staff are expected to follow Owens Community College's [Anti-Discrimination and Harassment Policy](#) and the College's [Title IX Policy](#)/Sexual Misconduct Procedures and Guidelines. The College strictly prohibits and will not tolerate harassment, discrimination, intimidation, or hostile/offensive working or learning environments.

Religious Accommodations: A student seeking an accommodation for an absence permitted under Ohio's Testing Your Faith Act must provide the instructor with a **written email** notice with the specific dates for an absence, and must do so not later than fourteen (14) days after the first day of instruction. **Alternative accommodations are not retroactive, and no academic penalty will be imposed for an absence under the policy***. The request for an alternative accommodation will be kept confidential. Students with questions about a religious accommodation under Ohio's Testing your Faith Act may contact the College's Office of Academic Affairs: provost@owens.edu

*The policy may be found on the Owens website: [3358:11-2-63 Accommodation](#) for a Student Absence for the Observance of Religious Beliefs and Practices Policy

Document Collection: Throughout the semester, I will ask for a variety of assignments or tests for student learning of general education or program assessment. Documents/tests are due before TIME at DATE of the week assigned. Please remember – the schedule weeks run Monday to Sunday, for example Monday, January 13 – Sunday January 19.

What will I learn in this course?

Catalog Description: Provides the historical foundation of the victims' movement, the establishment of the Victims of Crime Act, services provided by various victims' organizations and consequences of victimization to society. An overview of who in society is most likely to become a victim of crime, why some individuals are repeatedly victimized, the relation between victims and offenders, violence and victimization and the geography of victimization will be studied.

Prerequisites: NONE

Course Materials:

Textbook

Karmen, A. (2020). *Crime Victims: An Introduction to Victimology*. Cengage: Boston, MA. ISBN: 978-0-357-03779-9

You will need access to a computer, reliable Internet connection, and capability to create Microsoft Word documents – no PDFs. No other word formatting program will be acceptable, as the instructor does not have access to those resources and Blackboard does not accept them. Word documents will give the instructor the opportunity to add notes and feedback in the Track Changes format. Microsoft programs are available to students free and can be downloaded off Blackboard. If you need access to a computer, there are several computer labs located throughout campus.

To assess student learning in this class, students will engage in readings and assignments from the text, participate in discussion board topics, write a research paper, and complete three tests. Should "life happen" during an exam, the lowest test grade may be replaced by the cumulative final grade (Requests for this must be made directly to me). Please reach out to me with any concerns you may have about completing exams as a result of illness, food or housing insecurity, etc.

Course Objectives:

1. This course will...
2. ... introduce the philosophy and development of victimology and the steps required to process a victim through the court systems.
3. ... analyze the risks and protective factors regarding victims and discuss prevention, ethics and intervention models.
4. ... identify local community resources for victims and how to research resources available in other communities.
5. ... emphasize the importance of interagency teamwork as well as community involvement and support.
6. ... explore how cultural and gender sensitivity have changed.
7. ... explore “best practices” and the characteristics of interventions, which tend to be successful and those, which tend to be less effective.
8. ... introduce the student to search engines used to access current information on programs and resources for crime victims.

Student Learning Outcomes:

Student will...

1. ... explain the philosophical and historical development of the victimology and victim services.
2. ... describe the steps in processing a victim through the court system.
3. ... describe risk and protective factors of a victim.
4. ... identify the different roles of practitioners within victim services.
5. ... explain the roles of outside agencies working with victim services and discuss the importance of interdisciplinary teamwork among the various systems involved in service provision.
6. ... discuss the extent, characteristics, and roles of victimology.

What will our classroom environment be like?

Respectful Class Communication:

Student Code of Conduct:

All students are expected to follow Owens Community College’s Student Code of Conduct. If you are unfamiliar with the code, it can be found at

<https://www.owens.edu/conduct/wp-content/uploads/sites/247/2020/07/code.pdf>

Inclusion/Belonging (or DEI) Statement:**Anti-Discrimination and Harassment & Title IX/Sexual Misconduct:**

All students, faculty, and staff are expected to follow Owens Community College's Anti-Discrimination and Harassment Policy and the College's Title IX/Sexual Misconduct Procedures and Guidelines. The College strictly prohibits and will not tolerate harassment, discrimination, intimidation, or hostile/offensive working or learning environments. If you are unfamiliar with the Anti-Discrimination and Harassment Policy, it can be found at: https://www.owens.edu/media/trustees/board_policies/11-4-17.pdf

If you are unfamiliar with the Title IX/Sexual Misconduct Procedures and Guidelines, it can be found at: <https://www.owens.edu/trustees/wp-content/uploads/sites/45/2020/08/11-4-17-Title-IX-Sexual-Misconduct-Procedures-and-Guidelines.pdf>

Disability Services:

If you have a disability or acquire one, you may be entitled to receive individualized services and/or accommodations intended to assure you an equal opportunity to participate in and benefit from the program. To receive more information or to apply for services, please contact the Disability Resource Center at (567) 661-7007 or email disability@owens.edu.

How will the grade be determined and what are the major assignments for the semester?

The grade points for the areas of work are as follows.

Evaluation Measure	Outcomes Assessed	Value
2 Exams	1-8	225 pts each = 450 pts
Weekly Chapter Terms	1-8	5 pts each week = 75 pts
Final Paper Cover sheet = 5pt Grammar & Spelling = 50 pt Overall content = 120 pt Reference page = 25pt	1-8	200 pts
Class Participation/Discussion topics	1-8	65 pts
Final exam	1-8	220 points
Total		1000 points

Weighted Grade Scheme:

The final course grade is to be computed using the following weights:

Evaluation Measure	Value	Outcome Assessed
Class Participation:	5%	1-8
Activities:	7.5%	1-8
Exams:	67.5%	1-8
Paper:	20%	1-8

Final Grading Scale

Grade	Points
A	900-1000
B	800-899
C	700-799
D	600-699
F	0-599

Grading Procedure: Grades will be calculated on the following scale:

90% and Above	A
80% to Less than 90%	B
70% to Less than 80%	C
60% to Less than 70%	D
Less Than 60%	F

There will be THREE EXAMS during the semester. Each exam is worth 225 points, for a total of 675 points. Each week, KEY TERMS will be due from each chapter of the Crime Victims' text. These Key Terms are worth 5 points each week, for a total of 75 points.

RESEARCH PAPER – required

Students may select their topic from chapters 1-12 within the Crime Victims: An Introduction to Victimology text. The paper is to go beyond and add to the information presented in the chapter. This can include events from the local community/media, local/current statistics, specific application of Ohio law, etc. Students will use the MICROSOFT WORD program (available in Blackboard). NO OTHER WORD FORMAT WILL BE ACCEPTED. This paper will be a minimum of 5 – 7 typed pages (A “page” means a fully typed page. The last page must have a minimum of $\frac{3}{4}$ of the page containing typed information on it). Pages will have no more than a one-inch margin, double-spaced, and 12-point, non-bold Times New Roman font will be used. A minimum of three sources in addition to the class text will be referenced on an additional “References” page. References will follow either MLA or APA format. The Purdue OWL website is an easy to use source for these formats (https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research_and_citation/resources.html). There will be a separate title page that will include the following information, centered on the page: Title of paper, student's name, name of course, semester and year, instructor's name. In total, the final paper will have:

1 Title page

5 – 7 pages of research.

1 Reference page.

The paper is due during the DATE of the semester, but may be submitted early. This paper is worth 200 points.

What are student and instructor responsibilities?

Instructor Responsibilities:

General Information:

For information on FERPA, Cheating, and Plagiarism, Assessment of Student Learning Outcomes, and Student Code of Conduct, please refer to the appropriate section of the current Owens Community College Catalog online.

Contact Information:

Email is the preferred way to communicate with the instructor to seek clarification and/ or to set up a meeting time. Communicating via email helps students avoid waiting times, as well as missed opportunities that may occur when the instructor has been called away from the office on business.

Items such as instructional methods, attendance, grading assignments, email response, student hours (formerly office hours), etc.

Grading Procedure:

Student grades will be based on two tests, participation, and a semester-long project. Each test may cover textbook readings, lecture notes, and other class materials or presentations.

Student Responsibility: Items such as attendance, assignment submission, contacting instructor, respectful communication, asking for help/clarification, etc., lie with the student. When communicating via email, all emails will be written in a professional manner, addressed to the instructor, utilizing proper grammar and sentence structure. This class is meant not only to prepare you for working with victims, but to communicate with those victims in a professional, respectable manner.

Attendance and Class Participation:

An attendance sign-in sheet will be circulated at the beginning of each class. Students may earn up to 30 extra credit points for attendance. A student may miss three classes without point deductions. On the fourth absence, and each subsequent absence, two (2) points will be deducted for each missed class. Unless prior approval is given by the instructor, students arriving more than 15 minutes late, or leaving more than 15 minutes early, will be deemed absent for that class and will result in a loss of extra credit attendance points.

E-mail:

When contacting the instructor by e-mail, use your Owens Community College e-mail account. This is easily done through the Blackboard e-mail list.

The subject line of the email should contain your name, as well as the course name. This is necessary to make sure your assignment does not get lost among the numerous emails received by the instructor. E-mails are to be properly formatted and use proper spelling and grammar. E-mails are not “text messages,” and text message abbreviations ARE NOT to be use within emails.

How does the College support us?

Campus Resources

Writing Center – The Writing Center is located in the Education Center on the Findlay campus. Please consult their Web page for hours as they vary based on the semester:

<https://www.owens.edu/writing/>

Library – The Library provides a variety of resources from digital to print. Owens participates in the Express Link program affording students additional resources across the state of Ohio. Please become familiar with the Library and all it has to offer. Library hours may be found at: <https://www.owens.edu/library/>

Academic Advisors – Please meet with your advisor before the start of each semester. Your advisor is here to assist you with scheduling classes and to guide you towards completion and graduation. To schedule appointments, please call Student Financial Services at 567-661-2387.

Mental Health Services – Student Mental Health Services are available at no charge for Owens' students to provide assistance with personal, educational, interpersonal, family, social, or psychological difficulties. If you feel you may benefit from this service, please contact studentmentalhealth@owens.edu or (567)-661-7168.

If you have concerns about your safety or the safety of others, please contact the Department of Public Safety immediately at (567) 661-7575.

Tentative Class Assignments

Last Updated DATE: This is just to give you a guide as to what we are going to cover in this course and when.

Example 1

Week	Topic
1 DATE	CRIME VICTIMS/CHAPTER 1: What is Victimology? <i>An introduction to Victimology. What Victimology isn't. Comparing Victimology to Criminology. Why study Victimology? Why place such an emphasis on carrying out research?</i> CHAPTER 1 KEY TERMS DUE (5 pts). NOTE: Choose a minimum of 10 terms to define. DISCUSSION TOPIC #1 (5 pts.)
2 DATE	CRIME VICTIMS/CHAPTER 2: THE REDISCOVERY OF CRIME VICTIMS. <i>The discovery, decline, and rediscovery of crime victims. Victimology contributes to the rediscovery process. Other groups propel the rediscovery process forward. Rediscovering additional groups of victims. The rediscovery process in action, step by step.</i>

		CHAPTER 2 KEY TERMS DUE (5 pts). NOTE: Choose a minimum of 10 terms to define. SELF-STUDY: Work on Research Paper. DISCUSSION TOPIC #2 (5 PTS.)
3 DATE		CRIME VICTIMS/CHAPTER 3: VICTIMIZATION IN THE UNITED STATES: AN OVERVIEW <i>Victimization across the nation: The big picture. The two official sources of data. Taking a longer view: Murders in the U.S. over the past century. Putting crime into perspective: The chances of dying violently or from other causes.</i> CHAPTER 3 KEY TERMS DUE (5 pts). Choose a minimum of 10 terms to define. DISCUSSION TOPIC #3 (5 pts.)
4 DATE		CRIME VICTIMS/CHAPTER 4: A Closer Look at the Victims of Interpersonal Crimes of Violence and Theft. <i>Addressing some troubling questions. Focusing on murders and near-death experiences. A victimological investigation of murders in the U.S, Focusing on robberies. Focusing on burglaries. Focusing on motor vehicle theft. Predicting the chances of becoming a victim someday: Projecting cumulative risks.</i> CHAPTER 4 KEY TERMS DUE (5 pts). Choose a minimum of 10 terms to define. DISCUSSION TOPIC #4 (5 PTS.) REVIEW FOR EXAM 1, CHAPTERS 1 -4 CRIME VICTIMS.
5 DATE		CRIME VICTIMS/CHAPTER 5: The Ongoing Controversy over Shared Responsibility. <i>How some victims contribute to the crime problem. Repeat and chronic victims: Learning from past mistakes. The entire spectrum of possibilities: Recognizing complete innocence and full responsibility. Who or what is to blame for specific incidents? Mistakes individuals make: Victim Facilitation. Victim precipitation and provocation. Transcending victim blaming and victim defending: System blaming. The importance of determining responsibility in the criminal justice process.</i> CHAPTER 5 KEY TERMS DUE (5 pts). Choose a minimum of 10 terms to define. DISCUSSION TOPIC #5 (5 pts.) EXAM 1, CRIME VICTIMS, CHAPTERS 1-4. (225 pts)

6 DATE	CRIME VICTIMS/CHAPTER 6: Victims and the Police. <i>Victims interacting with the criminal justice system: Cooperation or conflict? What do victims want: Punishment? Treatment? Restitution? Victims and the police.</i> (continued on next page) CHAPTER 6 KEY TERMS DUE (5 pts). Choose a minimum of 10 terms to define. DISCUSSION TOPIC #6 (5pts.) SELF-STUDY: Work on Research Paper.
7 DATE	CRIME VICTIMS/CHAPTER 7: Victim's Rights and the Criminal Justice System. <i>Victims and the juvenile justice system. Toward greater formal legal rights within the criminal justice system. Victims and prosecutors. Victims and defense attorneys. Victims and judges. Victims and juries. Victims and corrections officials. And justice for all?</i> CHAPTER 7 KEY TERMS DUE (5 pts). Choose a minimum of 10 terms to define. DISCUSSION TOPIC #7 (5 pts.)
8 DATE	CRIME VICTIMS/CHAPTER 8: Victimized Children. <i>The ongoing debate between Maximalists and Minimalists. Missing children. Physically and sexually abused children. Abused children and legal proceedings. Proactive verses reactive strategies. Additional forms of exploitation and mistreatment of young people.</i> CHAPTER 8 KEY TERMS DUE (5 pts). Choose a minimum of 10 terms to define. DISCUSSION TOPIC #8 (5 pts.) REVIEW FOR EXAM 2, CHAPTERS 5 -8 CRIME VICTIMS.
9 DATE	TBD
10 DATE	CRIME VICTIMS/CHAPTER 9: Victims of Violence by Lovers and Family Members. <i>Violence within romantic relationships and families. The rediscovery of "Wife beating". The rediscovery of battered husbands and boyfriends. Victim provocation and murder: When is the slaying of a wife beater justified? The rediscovery of other victims of beatings. Preventing domestic violence.</i> CHAPTER 9 KEY TERMS DUE (5 pts). Choose a minimum of 10 terms to define. DISCUSSION TOPIC #9 (5 pts.) EXAM 2, CHAPTERS 5-8 CRIME VICTIMS (225 PTS.).

11 DATE	CRIME VICTIMS/CHAPTER 10: Victims of Rapes and Other Sexual Assaults. <i>Sexual assaults and rapes: The social reaction. The rediscovery of the plight of rape victims. The consequences of being sexually assaulted. The problem of pregnancies arising from rapes. The controversy surrounding questions of shared responsibility. Estimates of the incidence, prevalence, and seriousness of rape and sexual assault. Who faces the gravest dangers – Differential risks of being sexually assaulted. How the criminal justice system handles rape victims. Crisis centers: Providing emergency assistance. The rediscovery of more victims of rapes and sexual assaults. Three competing approaches to reducing the problem of rape and sexual assault.</i> CHAPTER 10 KEY TERMS DUE (5 pts). Choose a minimum of 10 terms to define. DISCUSSION TOPIC #10 (5 pts.)
12 DATE	CRIME VICTIMS/CHAPTER 11: Additional Groups of Victims with Special Problems. <i>Particular groups that face special problems which require special solutions. Passengers harmed while on cruise ships. Individuals menaced by stalkers. Victims of crimes committed at school. Casualties of workplace violence. Targets of hate crimes. Violence between prisoners. Law enforcement officers injured and slain in the line of duty. Casualties of politically inspired violence and terrorism.</i> CHAPTER 11 KEY TERMS DUE (5 pts). Choose a minimum of 10 terms to define. DISCUSSION TOPIC #11 (5 pts.) SELF-STUDY: Work on Research Paper.
13 DATE	CRIME VICTIMS/CHAPTER 12: Repaying Victims. <i>The costs of victimization. Gaining restitution from offenders. Winning judgements in civil court. Achieving reimbursements from insurance companies. Recovering losses through victim compensation programs. Confiscating profits from notorious criminals.</i> CHAPTER 12 KEY TERMS DUE (5 pts). Choose a minimum of 10 terms to define. DISCUSSION TOPIC #12 (10 pts.)

14 DATE		CRIME VICTIMS/CHAPTER 13: Victims in the 21st Century: Alternative Directions. <i>Toward countering criminal violence with forceful responses: Would victims be better off if they were armed? Toward restorative justice.</i> CHAPTER 13 KEY TERMS DUE (5 Pts). Choose a minimum of 10 terms to define. DISCUSSION TOPIC #13 (5 pts.) Research papers due (200 Pts)
15 DATE		REVIEW FOR EXAM 3, CHAPTERS 9 – 13, CRIME VICTIMS. Exam 3 will open on Wednesday, April 23.
16 DATE		EXAM 3 (225 PTS). Research papers returned.

Disclaimer: “The instructor reserves the right to amend this syllabus as deemed necessary and will communicate such amendment to the students in the course.”